

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Claims 1-56 (canceled).

57. (New) A method for treating a substrate comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting the substrate with a first aqueous solution comprising a metal salt solution, said metal salt selected from the group consisting of silver, titanium, zinc, magnesium, gold, platinum, vanadium and cerium, or combinations thereof; and

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(b) contacting the substrate with a second aqueous solution comprising of an oxidizing agent solution, wherein said oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide or tannic acid and wherein said first and second solutions are contacted with the substrate for a sufficient time to stain the substrate.

58. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the metal salt is a silver salt.

59. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

60. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

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61. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the metal salt is a titanium salt.

62. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

63. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

64. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the metal salt is a zinc salt.

65. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

66. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

67. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the metal salt is a magnesium salt.

68. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

69. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

70. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the metal salt is a gold salt.

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71. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

72. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

73. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the metal salt is a platinum salt.

74. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

75. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

76. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the metal salt is a vanadium salt.

77. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

78. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

79. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the metal salt is a cerium salt.

80. (New) The method of claim 79, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

81. (New) The method of claim 79, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

82. (New) A method for treating a substrate comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting the substrate with a first aqueous solution consisting of a metal salt solution, said metal salt selected from the group consisting of silver, titanium, zinc, magnesium, gold, platinum, vanadium and cerium, or combinations thereof; and

C' (b) contacting the substrate with a second aqueous solution consisting of an oxidizing agent solution, wherein said oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide or tannic acid and wherein said first and second solutions are contacted with the substrate for a sufficient time to stain the substrate.

83. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is a silver salt.

84. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

85. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

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86. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is a titanium salt.

87. (New) The method of claim 86, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

88. (New) The method of claim 86, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

89. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is a zinc salt.

90. (New) The method of claim 89, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

91. (New) The method of claim 89, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

92. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is a magnesium salt.

93. (New) The method of claim 92, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

94. (New) The method of claim 92, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

95. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is a gold salt.

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96. (New) The method of claim 95, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

97. (New) The method of claim 95, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

98. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is a platinum salt.

99. (New) The method of claim 98, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

100. (New) The method of claim 98, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

101. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is a vanadium salt.

102. (New) The method of claim 101, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

103. (New) The method of claim 101, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

104. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is a cerium salt.

105. (New) The method of claim 104, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

106. (New) The method of claim 104, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

107. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of sulfates, chlorides, perchlorates, acetates, nitrates, permanganates, thiosulfates, and oxides, and combinations.

108. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of silver sulfate, silver perchlorate, silver nitrate, silver chloride, zinc perchlorate, zinc sulfate, zinc peroxide, magnesium thiosulfate, magnesium nitrate, manganese (II) chloride, titanium III sulfate, titanium hydride, cerium (III) perchlorate, titanium (IV) chloride, titanium (II) sulfate, cerium nitrate, and cerium (III) perchlorate, and combinations thereof.

109. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt solution is at a concentration between about 0.001% and about 20%.

110. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt solution is at a concentration between about 0.025% and about 8%.

111. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt solution is a silver nitrate solution.

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112. (New) The method of claim 111, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

113. (New) The method of claim 111, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

114. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the metal salt solution is an iron (II) sulfate and silver nitrate solution.

115. (New) The method of claim 114, wherein the oxidizing agent is sodium hydroxide.

116. (New) The method of claim 114, wherein the oxidizing agent is tannic acid.

117. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the substrate is wood or masonry.

118. (New) The method of claim 117, wherein the substrate is wood.

119. (New) The method of claim 117, wherein the substrate is masonry.

120. (New) A method for staining a substrate with a kit, said kit comprising a first aqueous solution consisting of a metal salt solution and a second aqueous solution consisting of an oxidizing agent solution, said method comprising the steps of:



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(a) contacting the substrate with said first aqueous solution; and

c' (b) contacting the substrate with said second aqueous solution, wherein said first and second aqueous solutions are contacted with the substrate for a sufficient time to stain the substrate.

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